

## Virginia Legislature.

### House of Delegates.

MONDAY, FEBRUARY 10, 1852.

**Small Notes.** Mr. CHASE moved to take up the bill authorizing the Banks to issue notes of a less denomination than five dollars. The resolution was agreed to—yeas 63, nays 35.

Mr. CHASE moved to strike out the following section of the bill:

"If any Bank of circulation shall avail itself of the privileges of this act, the notes of such bank, whether issued at the money bank or a branch thereof, pursuant thereto, shall be paid at the money bank, or any branch thereof at which the same may be presented."

Mr. CHASE was opposed to all small notes, but he was for poisoning the patient that good may come from it. He was in favor of allowing our Banks to issue small notes, in order to drive out the worthless currency that we are troubled with. He argued at length in favor of his amendment to strike out.

Mr. WALLACE thought that this was the wrong time for Virginia to give up her position, when the great state of Pennsylvania was coming to the rescue, the press of Maryland and the Secretary of the Treasury were also opposing this system. Was there a deficiency of gold in this country? The Secretary of the Treasury had answered that there never was more in the country. We can now get gold for Bank notes as well as we could at any previous time. But what we want is silver. The merchants find that it is more beneficial for them to ship silver than gold. This is not only true in regard to dollars, but it is equally true in regard to halves, quarters, dimes, and half dimes; and if the gentleman from Roanoke desired to relieve the people, he should authorize the Banks to issue notes of these smaller denominations.

It is a law of trade that the worse will drive out the better currency. Our own small notes will be hoarded up, and these trifling, ragged, foreign notes will continue in circulation—for if a man has a ragged note and a good note, he will pay away the worst and keep the better. We will then have not only this miserable currency but we will also have our own small note currency.

As long as the great demand for silver continues, as long as silver is worth two percent more than gold, we will find that our Banks will pay out gold for their one and two dollar notes, and the people will not be relieved.

If the amendment of the gentleman succeeds, what will you have? You will then authorize these free Banks, with which you are shingling the State, to issue small notes, when there is no security for their redemption. He had been always averse to any system which would drive out of circulation the gold and silver, and subject us to all these sudden revolutions of commerce which we have so often experienced.

He appealed to his friend to ponder well before he gave up his old and cherished opinions. We would now paralyze the arms of Pennsylvania and Maryland, which were coming to our assistance. There was no time more propitious than this for the establishment of a specie circulation. He feared for the future paper circulation of this State, when we shall have Banks in every little village, which would cause sudden inflation and expansion, and subsequent contraction.

He came from a city which had felt the evil of these small notes, and they all, both Whig and Democrat, were opposed to the issue of small notes by our Banks. Why did you not authorize this issue five years ago, when the want of them was felt much more than now? He hoped that the amendment would be rejected—that we would not act in hot haste, and have to repent at our leisure.

Mr. Early was like both the gentlemen who had spoken, opposed to small notes, but he thought if there was any profit to be made from these small notes that the Banks in which the State are stockholders should receive the profit. It is very well to talk of the abstract question of the evil of these small notes, but we know that they do exist, and the question is whether we ought not to have those which are good. We had never been able to get our grand juries to present any persons for receiving or passing foreign small notes. He had heard of a judge charging a jury to find bills against those persons who had passed these small notes, and they instead of finding bills against them, presented the law against their circulation as a nuisance.

Mr. Hubbard was unlike any of the gentlemen who had spoken: he was in favor of a small note currency over a metallic currency. He had heard that a premium had been paid in the city of Richmond for these small notes of the District of Columbia. He thought that there ought to be some remedy for this evil. He thought the gentleman from Petersburg put a forced construction upon the charters of the independent Banks. For they are not authorized to issue a note unless countersigned by the Treasurer, and an equal amount of State stock is deposited with him as security. He indicated an amendment which he would offer in case the amendment was adopted, to the effect that the banks should not pay out more than five dollars to any one person in one day.

Mr. Lewis said as the 1st section of the bill was also defective, he would move to recommit the bill and amendments.

Mr. Craig suggested that it would be better to lay the bill on the table for a day or two.

Mr. Lewis withdrew his motion to recommit, and moved to lay the bill on the table which was carried—yeas 53, nays 44.

THURSDAY MARCH 4, 1852.

### Senate.

The Committee on General Laws were discharged from the further consideration of the resolution providing for the election of Commissioners of the Revenue in advance of the elections. [The Committee on General Laws reported yesterday a bill providing for the election and qualification of clerks of circuit and county courts, attorneys for the commonwealth, sheriffs, commissioners of the revenue and surveyors.]

**Bills passed.** The following bills were read a third time and passed:

Amending the charter of the Thompson's Gap Turnpike Company, (with amendments.)

Authorizing bail in certain cases to procure bail places, &c.

Authorizing David S. Cowles to erect a pier in James river.

Incorporating the town of Ravenswood in the county of Jackson.

Numerous bills were read and ordered to engrossment.

On motion of Mr. SHACKLEFORD, the bill relation to the election of county officers was taken up, read a second time, and made the order of the day for tomorrow at one o'clock.

### House of Delegates.

By Mr. LEWIS of H.—From committee of Roads, &c., a report adverse to the petitions and resolutions for the construction of a railroad from Mannington to the Ohio river.

**GUBERNATORIAL ELECTION.** Mr. PRICE of Greenbrier, from the Special Committee on the part of the House, presented the following Report, which, on his motion, was laid on the table and ordered to be printed:

The Joint Committee appointed to recount the votes of Governor of the Commonwealth have performed that duty, and after a careful addition have found the result to be as follows:

For Joseph Johnson, 55,517  
For George W. Summers, 59,054

Majority for Jos. Johnson, 6,463  
The committee find that returns from the counties of Charles City, Clarke, Grayson, Lancaster, Pleasants, Russell and Warren are not embraced in the former addition.

All of which is respectfully submitted.

**Education.** On motion of Mr. BARNETT of Taylor, the following preamble and resolution was adopted:

Whereas, frequent and liberal appropriations have been made in the form of donations, annuities and loans to the different Eastern Collegiate Institutions, many of which have been subsequently released from the payment; and such favors have almost exclusively been confined to the East—

Resolved, Therefore, that the Committee of Schools and Colleges, inquire into the expediency of appropriating a specific sum of money to the different Colleges in the Western portion of the State, upon condition that said Colleges agree to educate a proportionate number of indigent young men.

**Public printing.** By Mr. STAPLES—That the Clerk of the Court of Appeals at Richmond, be requested to inform the House what prices are paid for printing the Records of the Court of Appeals, of the style in which they are printed, and the manner in which the present contractor has fulfilled his contract, since May, 1844.

By Mr. BROOKS—That the committee of Courts, &c. enquire into the expediency of allowing the same mileage to Judges of the Court of Appeals and of Circuit Courts which is now allowed by law to witnesses in civil cases.

### Wheeling Bridge Case.

**Judge McLane's Opinion.**—After a statement of the history of the case, and the manner in which it came before them, and declaring the grounds on which the Court had jurisdiction, &c., the Court says:

In all the charters granted for the construction of bridges over navigable waters, it is believed all the States, not excepting Virginia, have provided that their navigation should not be obstructed.

The bridge company had legal notice of the institution of the suit, and of the application for an injunction, to stay their proceeding, before their cables were thrown across the river. This should have induced them to suspend, for a time, their great work, alike creditable to the enterprise of their citizens, and the genius and science of the Engineer who planned the Bridge and superintended its construction. It is a matter of regret, that by this prosecution and completion of the bridge they have incurred a high responsibility.

For the reasons and facts stated we think that the bridge obstructs the navigation of the Ohio, and that the State of Pennsylvania has been and will be injured, in her public works, in such a manner, as not only to authorize the bringing of this suit, but to entitle her to the relief prayed.

Believing from the estimates in the case, that this obstruction to the navigation of the river may be removed by elevating the bridge, at an expense which, when added to the original cost, will leave a reasonable profit to the stockholders, on the entire capital expended, we have endeavored to ascertain the lowest point of elevation which will secure this object. And on a full view of the evidence, we were brought to the conclusion, that an elevation of the lowest parts of the bridge, for three hundred feet, over the channel of the river, not less than one hundred and eleven feet from the low water mark, will be sufficient—the flooring of the bridge descending from the termini of the elevation, at the rate of four feet in the hundred—this will give a level roadway for boats of three hundred feet in width, and will enable those whose chimneys are eighty feet to pass under the bridge, when the water is thirty feet deep, from the ground, leaving the tops of the chimneys two feet below the lowest parts of the bridge. If this or some other plan shall not be adopted which shall relieve the navigation from obstruction on or before the first day of Feb. next, the bridge must be adapted.

We do not deem it necessary to provide against the floods, which seldom occur, and which, when at the highest, overwhelm the lower parts of our cities and towns on the banks of the Ohio and necessarily suspend, for a short time business upon the river.

**The Wheeling Bridge Case.**—The following are the leading facts in this important suit:

1. The Wheeling Bridge is 93 feet high, and has a clear span of 1,010 feet, being erected without piers.

2. The extreme floods in the Ohio, which the court allow to be considered in the case, rise 30 feet high.

3. Boats with chimneys not exceeding 60 feet in height can pass under the bridge on the highest floods recognized by the court.

4. There are seven steamboats, recently built, which have raised their chimneys to heights varying from 70 to 85 feet, and which claim the right to pass the bridge, in any stage of the water, without lowering their pipes.

5. To accommodate these 7 boats, the Supreme Court has decided that this structure, which cost more than two hundred thousand dollars, must be abated.

6. The plans of the bridge were published two years in advance of its erection, and no complaint or objection was made until the Bridge Company had expended their entire capital.

CHARLES ELLET, JR.,  
Civil Engineer.

[By Telegraph for the Pittsburg Dispatch.]

## CONGRESS.

**WASHINGTON, March 3.—Senate:** Petitions were presented for and against Woodworth's patent, and against the renewal of McCormick's patent for a reaping machine. Mr. Walker presented petitions from Ohio, Illinois and New York, praying the passage of a law making public lands free to actual settlers. Mr. Wade presented a petition for a grant of land to aid in the construction of a wagon road from the Mississippi to Oregon.

**House:** Mr. Disney presented a resolution from the Legislature of Ohio, for the construction of a canal at the Indiana side of the Ohio river at the Falls. Referred to Committee on Roads and Canals. Mr. Mason said that a bill for this purpose would be reported.

The House resumed the consideration of the bill granting the right of way and donation of land to Missouri for Railroad purposes. Mr. Bennett concluded his speech, favoring equal legislation towards all the States, and opposing the grab game in which the most clamorous always get an undue share.

Mr. Stanley obtained the floor and moved the previous question. Mr. Campbell wished to withdraw his motion, to enable him to answer the grave charges brought against Ohio and the Western States. The previous question was seconded; and on motion of Mr. Bennett to recommit the bill, with instruction to report a substitute, making the apportionment of land to all States, or public improvement, it was rejected, yeas 70, nays 90.

The bill was then referred to a Committee of the whole.

The House went into Committee on the bill giving every citizen, the head of a family, a homestead of 160 acres on condition of occupation and cultivation. The bill was debated until adjournment.

**WASHINGTON, March 3.—Democrat:** The troubles are increasing. The census printing is the great stumbling block to the restoration of harmony.

Mr. Webster is expected to return to-night. The Baltic left for New York this morning. She leaves for Liverpool in place of the Atlantic.

**New York, March 4.**—The jury in the Assault and Battery Case of N. P. Willis against Edwin Forest, have brought in a verdict in favor of Mr. Willis for \$2,500 damages.

**New York, March 5.**—There was a great demonstration by the Whigs, to-night, in the metropolitan Hall, in favor of Mr. Webster for President. Resolutions and an address to the people of the United States, setting forth the difficulty and danger which attend the administration of government during the next four years, and the importance of placing the reins in the hands of one gifted with a wise experience of the past and a sagacious foresight of the future. The resolutions submitted Webster to the consideration of the National Convention. Messrs. Choate and Taylor addressed the meeting.

**Harrisburg, March 4.**—This Democratic State Convention met to-day, Wm. Hopkins, President. The vote for Buchanan is 97, Cass, 81, Walker, 2, Houston 2. There has been some discussion about appointing Delegates to the General Convention. The Canal Commissioner has not yet been nominated.

**Harrisburg, March 5.**—William Seagriff, of Fayette, was this day nominated as Democratic candidate for Canal Commissioner, on the fourth ballot. The vote stood—for Seagriff, 77; Gordon F. Mason, 37; John B. Bratton, 8.

Of the thirty-three members of the Pennsylvania Senate, six are printers.

## Railroad from Latrobe to Uniontown.

The Legislature, on Friday the 30th ult passed the bill, giving to the Central Railroad Company, the privilege of constructing a Branch road from some point of the Central road between Greensburg and Latrobe, to Uniontown in Fayette county.

We give below, two sections of the bill which relate more particularly to it.

**Section 1.** Be it enacted, &c., That the Pennsylvania Railroad Company be and is hereby authorized, if they deem it expedient, to construct a lateral railroad from some point on the Pennsylvania Railroad, (between the borough of Greensburg and the town of Latrobe, in Westmoreland county,) in a Southern direction, by way of or near Mount Pleasant, in Westmoreland county, and Connellsville, in Fayette county, to the borough of Uniontown, in Fayette county, and that, hereafter, the said lateral road shall be subject to all the provisions of the several acts of Assembly relating to the said Pennsylvania Railroad Company, excepting the toll on tonnage provided for the twenty-second section of the act of the 13th of April, 1846, entitled "An act to incorporate the Pennsylvania Railroad Company."

**Section 2.** That the said Pennsylvania Railroad Company shall have the privilege, and they are hereby authorized (after the said lateral road shall have been completed and in operation,) to extend the said lateral road from Uniontown to or near the town of Geneva, or some other point on or near the waters of the Monongahela, in said county of Fayette; or to the borough of Waynesburg, in Green county, as may be deemed most expedient and advantageous by said company—subject to the like provisions and restrictions as are imposed (in the preceding section of this act) on the proposed lateral road, from the main stem of the Pennsylvania Railroad to Uniontown.

The members of the California legislature, when they first met, were compelled to sit upon nail heads, with a board placed across the open head, or upon temporary benches, which now and then broke down under the weight of legislative dignity, and let down a row of honorable gentlemen flat upon the floor, to the great hazard of the gravity of the house. This was in consequence of the unfinished state of the capitol.

**Passengers.**—The packets going out yesterday were crowded with people. Every State room in the Pittsburg was engaged at an early hour. The Federal Arch for St. Louis, had about one hundred and fifty passengers. Of these a company of twenty-five, from Fayette county, Pa., under command of Capt. Nichols, were on their way to California, via New Orleans.—Pitt. Dispatch.

## FOREIGN NEWS.

### Arrival of the America.

**New York, March 4.**—The steamer America arrived at Halifax this morning. Her intelligence is somewhat interesting.

**ENGLAND.**—The British Ministry has been dissolved. Viscount Palmerston's proposed amendment to Lord John Russell's bill for the local militia, on which the Ministry had joined issue, was defeated by a vote of 136 to 125. This event was unexpected; as on the previous night the ministers had a telling majority on Lord Russell's motion expressing a want of confidence in the Earl of Clarendon, the whole number voting in the affirmative being 137 to 237 nays.

There were all sorts of rumors afloat in Liverpool respecting the successor of Lord John Russell.

A coalition between Sir James Graham and Lord Palmerston was expected.

When the Premier announced his resignation, the greatest astonishment was felt, as no one was prepared to believe that the event had so suddenly taken place.

The talk in the House is that the Queen will not appoint Viscount Palmerston; but that the Earl Derby will at once accept the Premiership.

The Irish Brigade all voted in the majority, and cheered most heartily at the result.

**FRANCE.**—The new law regulating the Press has been issued. It does not give satisfaction.

Lord Northamly handed his letter of refusal as Ambassador to France to the President. Lord Cowly, the new Minister, arrived on Wednesday.

It is feared by Government that Cavaignac will be elected to the Assembly.

A decree has been passed abolishing the fetes of the 24th of February, and the 4th of May has been substituted, as the only day worthy of commemoration, being the birth day of Napoleon.

Various rumors prevailed of a new ministerial crisis.

Genl. St. Armand is said to be in disgrace, because he will not sign a decree for the dismissal of a number of officers of known Orleans tendency.

The War Department is to be conducted by Admiral Laaland during St. Laaland's absence in Algeria.

The Gazette France states, that the President of the Republic is about to form a body-guard from the Gens de Armes Mobile.

**SPAIN.**—The Queen's health is completely restored. Public thanksgiving was celebrated in Madrid, and in all the Catholic Capitals of Europe, with great pomp and ceremony.

## THE MIRROR.

"Praise where we can, and censure where we must."

MORGANTOWN, Va.  
Saturday, March 13, 1852.

### EASTERN AGENCY.

Mr. C. PIERCE, No. 46, South Third St., Philadelphia, is one of our most obliging and attentive Agents.

E. W. CARR, Third street, opposite the Exchange, Philadelphia, is also our Agent for that City.

WM. THOMPSON, at the Newspaper Agency, S. E. corner of Baltimore and Calvert streets; is our Agent for Baltimore.

**OTHER AGENTS.**  
D. M. AUVILL, Nestorville, Barbours co., Va.  
J. CALDWELL, F. M. Kingwood, Preston County, Va.

The last Mail brought us a few country papers, and nothing more.—Our Washington and Richmond correspondence is behind.

### To Correspondents.

"H. G. B." on intellectual culture, is received, and will appear in our next.

### A Chat with Correspondents.

1. The reason why we insist upon the real names of Correspondents is, not that we wish to publish them, unless they prefer it, but to guard against imposition. Put any signature you please to your communications, but add real name at the bottom of the sheet, so that we may certainly know who you are. We cannot distinguish the hand writing of strangers satisfactorily; and in fact, the hand is always disguised when a trick upon the Editor is intended. We never divulge the names of correspondents, unless in case of an imposition, or false statement, when justice requires that they should be known.

2. We are fond of encouraging home talent, and have no kind of preference for that which comes from a distance, other than the importance of the matter communicated. It has always afforded us pleasure, likewise, to encourage youthful talent.

3. We expect correspondents to write plainly, spell correctly, and "fix up" their ideas as they wish to see them in print. Positively we have not time to make extensive corrections, much less to re-write whole sheets of characters, as much out of line as a battalion of militia when "training" by steam!

4. Never threaten an Editor.—Did you ever hear tell of the anecdote of Dr. Franklin and his saw-dust pudding? If you don't like his paper, or his plan of operation, after a full and fair understanding, and proper explanation when mistakes occur, why just drop him; but don't threaten! The "freedom of the Press" is one of the dearest rights of freemen, and ought ever to be held sacred.

5. Correspondents who have "always paid their postage," have no right to think they are meant when we complain of non-payment of postage. The hint is intended for others.

6. We never complain of Correspondents without reason. Having a large stock of good nature, and as much politeness as ought to be expected in a printing-office, with a fund of patience that some consider inexhaustible,—it goes very much against the grain with us to scold, or seem to quarrel with any one, but it is absolutely necessary to make a show of porcupine quills occasionally.

### Morgantown Bridge.

We understand that the initiatory step towards building a Bridge across the River at this place, has been taken. A contract for a part of the work was let, on Monday last, to one of our citizens. This Bridge is one of great importance to this county, and should the Railroad from Latrobe to the mouth of Raccoon be completed, (which is now almost a fixed fact,) its value to Morgantown can scarcely be over estimated. We rejoice, therefore, that the Directors have taken this matter seriously in hand.

### A Trip to Fairmont.

On Saturday morning last, at the invitation of Capt. Gaskill, of the new steamboat *Thomas P. Ray*, we (the assistant editor) took passage for the "Mountain city." At 7 o'clock A. M. we left our wharf, to encounter a full river, and an impetuous current the larger portion of the trip. The current, at the third stage of water, was more than usually strong, and the task of urging the boat against it could only have been performed by a skillful pilot, a trust-worthy and experienced engineer, and a crew wide awake and watching. That we had these, it is only necessary to add that the trip was made without using a line and capstan. At one time, while rounding a short bend among the Potato hills,

or Jim's Rifle, it was thought necessary to put out a line, but before it was made fast on shore our "bonny boat" started again, only requiring a minute to gather fresh steam, and ascended beautifully without further impediment. The captain and crew of the Ray certainly deserve great credit for their skillful management of the craft; and in their charge the trip to Fairmont, which has heretofore (except when performed by the *Globe*, a boat of about equal strength) been considered a perilous one, may be regarded as a mere pleasure excursion.

No pains were spared by these in charge of the "substantials" and extras to render the passengers (some 22 in number) perfectly at home during the excursion. All enjoyed it heartily—for we had "lots of fun," waking the slumber with the boat-whistle, which proved, on that occasion at least, a terror to the *lice stock* generally, between this and the "Mountain city."

The time occupied in going up from port to port, including three stoppages, to take in passengers and fuel and put off freight, was 5 hours. In coming down, including two stoppages, the running time was two hours and 20 minutes. Considering the strong current, and large lot of freight on the boat, this was a "quick run," and tested, to entire satisfaction, her excellent application of power, as well as speed.

### The Illustrated Family Friend.

Published at Columbia S. C. by Goodman & Lyons, is all that it claims to be, "a choice companion for the Home Circle, the Social Group, the lonesome hour and the leisure moment." The sheet is about the size of the Eastern *Flash* journals;—it is well filled with interesting matter, & embellished at great expense. The *Family Friend* is designed for Southern reading, and to encourage to a proper development of Southern talent; and the Editors will give to those who patronize them the worth of their Two Dollars, as fully as will any of the papers from the other side of Mason & Dixon's line. We are favored with an exchange, and take pleasure in showing it to persons disposed to subscribe.

Instead of making up clubs for Northern blanket-sheets, filled with love-lyarns soft enough to sicken a sensible monkey, turn your attention to the *Family Friend*, and investigate its claims to your preference.

### Electioneering!

#### FOR THE MIRROR.

Mr. Siegfried!—As a citizen, I feel some interest in having those offices under the new constitution which the people are to fill by election, occupied by men who are well qualified, not only by knowledge but by experience to discharge their duties. It seems to me that, in electing county officers, at least, we ought to look more to capacity and fitness from considerations like these, than to any thing else,—and not be guided in our choice, either by blind party zeal, or by any feeling that does not look to the interest of the public. So thinking, I beg to bring to your notice, and that of the public, burfellow-citizen, E. W. Tower, as a suitable candidate for the office of County Surveyor. I have been informed that the office has become almost worthless, and that its emoluments will hardly pay a Surveyor for the trouble of keeping his implements in order. Nevertheless, it is well to have even this little done "decently and in order." I take the liberty, therefore, of bringing Mr. Tower before the public as a candidate for the office, feeling assured that his qualifications and experience eminently entitle him to hold a position which the old incumbent has long since been ready to vacate. I do this in no disparagement of the claims of the gentleman whose name was brought before the public in last week's *Mirror*, in connection with the same office.—Let them be tested by their respective merits,—let us have the best officer, "modestly" or no "modesty"—and the choice of the people will be my choice.

A VOTER.  
March 10, 1852.

#### FOR THE MIRROR.

MR. EDITOR!—The time was when our Assessors were unknown to a majority of the people until they traveled among them to perform the duty for which they were elected. A remedy for this has been provided in the formation of a new Constitution. And the time is close upon us, when Assessors and assessor officers will be elected by the people. Now, you know Mr. Editor, that *advertising* is the only way to ensure success in any important undertaking, and more especially in office-seeking. In these days of reform, a man might almost as well attempt a trip to the moon, as to think of walking into office without an "announcement."

I believe no one has, as yet been announced for Assessor in this (the eastern) district. I would therefore name Jas. T. McCluskey, as a suitable person to fill that office. As to competency, another might not so readily be found. Why have not any

nouncements been made for this by all the offices to be filled. The sooner the better, for success. You know Sir, that "delays are dangerous." Such is the candid opinion of one who is not an office-seeker.

X.

## RICHMOND CORRESPONDENCE.

Extract of a letter from Alex. Wade, Esq. to a gentleman of this place, dated:

Richmond, March 5, 1852.

The local business of our country has, with other local business in the House of Delegates, been brought to a stand still. The bill making provisions for listing and valuing the taxable property of the Commonwealth, which bill has been undergoing discussion for the last two weeks, being the order from day to day in committee of the whole, was on yesterday reported to the House, and I am inclined to think that some considerable time will be taken up in discussing, amending and adopting said bill in the House; when it will be taken up in the Senate, and as a matter of course, you may set down at least one week's discussion, with several amendments, which must of necessity be returned to the House, then *vice versa*,—so you can see that it is impossible to form any very accurate data when we shall be able to complete said bill, which is so desirable, that the Commissioners of the Revenue may enter on the discharge of their duty. Said bill will have to be completed before we can (constitutionally) lay a tax.

A bill has been reported to our body, with other provisions, making the 4th Thursday of April the day of the election of County Officers other than Magistrates; which bill is made the order of this day at 1 o'clock, P. M.

I believe the officers to conduct the election will be appointed by the Governor;—that is, three at the Court-Houses, and they those of the Precincts,—who will only act for the first election. We have had a long debate on this question. Some are in favor of the County Courts, and others for perpetuating the above mode. I manifested to the House, that when the proper time should arrive, I would move that the people elect their Commissioners in their respective districts, &c.

The committee on county organization have not yet reported. Our county recommended five commissioners, to wit, N. Pickenpaugh, Gen. E. S. Pindall, Wm. Price, esq., Wm. Lantz, esq., and Thomas Meredith, esq., and recommend 7 districts, and we may add yet (when the report is made) two more commissioners, to give each separate district a commissioner.

The committee that was raised on a resolution of the House for the circuits composing the several districts for the district courts, each to form a committee and decide the point where the court shall be held, met this evening at 4 o'clock, and the balloting commenced—each county, or the delegates, voting for their respective counties. A resolution having been adopted that the county having the lowest number be dropped at each ballot until a choice could be effected, it continued until the vote stood thus: Harrison 7, Marion 6, and Ohio 5—then a resolution was offered by Lewis, of Harrison, that the committee report blank, which was carried, and thus ended in smoke their labor of two evenings.

We will inevitably have a long session or an adjourned one.

## FROM CALIFORNIA.

Extract of a Letter to the Editor:  
TAMAMA CITY, (California,) 1  
January 26th, 1852.

Dear Sir,—It was a delightful morning on the 19th of the present month, when a friend and myself (after having toiled, and tugged, and puffed, and steamed against strange currents, and amongst innumerable snags to this point, on the Upper Sacramento,) took a couple of California steeds, and started for Shaster city, a town situated among the foot-hills and at the most southern extremity of that vast range of mountains which commences here and extends away to the north through California, Oregon, British North America, and interrupted only by the narrow straits of Behring, extends far away into Asia.—I said the morning was delightful. A bright May morning at home seems really to have no greater charms about it than have some of what are called winter mornings in this country. The air is soft, gentle and balmy—the grass and vegetation all around fresh and green—the notes of a thousand little birds, coming from every shrub, bush and tree—and that unmistakable evidence of the approach of spring at home, the croaking of frogs in every creek which we passed, all was calculated to awaken pleasant feelings and recollections, and make one almost imagine that he had been transported into the middle of May in Pennsylvania or Virginia.

Tahama is a town of recent origin, and will depend altogether for its success on the success which will attend the attempt now being made to navigate the Upper Sacramento. Should that prove practicable, a town will spring up which eventually must only